

Yuba County is to have a new county physician as Dr. T. P. Peery, who held the office for many years, has declined to be reappointed.

Exchanging programs between county medical societies seems to be working out well. Alameda and San Francisco have exchanged programs several times with great success. Riverside and San Bernardino are doing the same thing and it is also an attractive feature there. Anything that tends to cultivate friendly relations between physicians is much to be desired.

San Bernardino has organized a Physicians' Club and at its first session had an interesting program on Brain Tumors.

Yolo County Medical Society met at Woodland, at the office of Dr. Lawhead, April 9th.

The Los Angeles Medical Association building has been projected and seems on the road to successful erection. It is to be a twelve-story, class A building, owned exclusively by physicians, and mostly by members of the Los Angeles County Association. Los Angeles certainly can show most of the rest of us that the way to do anything is not to talk about it but just to get out and do it!

Placer County Hospital was totally destroyed by fire on March 20. The work of rebuilding will begin at once.

Articles of incorporation were filed with the Secretary of State by the California Anti-Compulsory Vaccination League of Berkeley. "Dr." Nellie Beige is one of the incorporators.

State Forester Homans has issued a bulletin advising the culture of medicinal plants in California commercially. The annual importation into the United States amounts to \$18,000,000.

The Alameda County Society for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis, at its March meeting, made active preparations for an extended campaign of education. It was decided to engage an expert to act as educator and to devise means to extend the field of activity of the Society.

In San Bernardino a Physicians' Club has been organized. Bi-monthly meetings will be held. Experts will be secured occasionally to present addresses upon special topics. There were sixteen physicians present at the inaugural banquet. Dr. G. R. Owen is president, and Dr. Thomas McHugh, secretary.

The committee for the study of the "Red Plague," of the Commonwealth Club of California held its preliminary meeting. The chairman, Mr. C. M. Wollenberg, appointed sub-committees to deal with the various phases of the subject.

The San Francisco Board of Supervisors has passed an ordinance requiring all dogs to be muzzled in order to suppress the epidemic of rabies which has made its appearance in that city. Pasteur treatment is provided free.

The sailor on board the coasting vessel "Acme" who has been acting as a typhoid carrier has been investigated by Dr. A. W. Sawyer, Director of the State Hygienic Laboratory. A full report will be published shortly.

Dr. J. J. Arberry, who was sentenced, in 1910, for obtaining money under false pretenses, has been pardoned by the Governor.

A series of conferences between the Alameda County Tax Association and the Board of Supervisors is being held to devise a plan which will reduce the expense to the county in handling the patients now admitted to the Receiving Hospital.

The forty-fourth anniversary of the founding of the Sacramento Society for Medical Improvement was celebrated last month. Dr. F. P. Tay, of the University of California, was the principal speaker.

The California Federation of Women's Clubs will investigate the matter of the prevention of infant mortality, and the prevention of marriage between diseased persons, in the attempt to influence legislation along these lines.

Ground has been broken in Bakersfield for a new hospital to be conducted by the Sisters of Mercy. The structure will cost \$75,000.

The Medical Department of the University of California is in process of complete reorganization. The entire clinical staff handed their resignations to President Wheeler who has, up to date, made the following appointments: Dr. Herbert C. Moffitt, Professor of Medicine and Dean; Dr. Wallace I. Terry, Professor of Surgery; Dr. W. W. Kerr, Clinical Professor of Medicine; Dr. W. B. Lewitt, Clinical Professor of Pediatrics, and Dr. Howard Morrow, Clinical Professor of Dermatology. The departmental heads will devote a large share of their time to teaching, and will be provided with a sufficient staff of paid assistants to place the school on a true academic basis. Private contributions are expected for the erection of an adequate teaching hospital.

#### NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

The Ninth Annual Convention of the California State Nurses' Association will take place June 24th and 25th, 1912. Sessions held at Cooper Medical College, Clay and Webster Sts., San Francisco.

#### TESTIMONIAL TO DR. H. BERT ELLIS.

A number of physicians of Los Angeles gave a Testimonial Dinner to Dr. Ellis at the University Club, Los Angeles, April 22nd, 1912. It was given in remembrance of the Los Angeles meeting of the A. M. A., at which time he was Chairman of the Committee on Arrangements and arranged everything to everybody's satisfaction—a most difficult task. Dr. Norman Bridge was toastmaster and, from the newspaper accounts, it must have been a most successful affair.

#### RESEARCH EXPEDITION.

The first research expedition (for the study of malaria) from the Department of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene of Tulane University, which department is under the direction of Professor Creighton Wellman, sailed from New Orleans, April 20, for Central America. The expedition is headed by Dr. Charles Cassedy Bass of the Department of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene of Tulane. From Central America the members of the commission will sail directly for New York to attend the meeting of the American Medical Association before which it is intended to announce and exhibit the results of the investigation.

#### ATTENDANCE AT THE ANNUAL MEETINGS.

As a matter of some possible interest, we publish the following figures giving the number of members registered at the several annual meetings since 1906. The exact number registered up to Tuesday night, 1906 session, is not known, but it exceeded 400. It is probable that there are always some members at the meetings who fail to register.

1906, San Francisco	400
1907, Del Monte	157
1908, Coronado	187
1909, San Jose	318
1910, Sacramento	287
1911, Santa Barbara	168
1912, Del Monte	244

#### OUR EXHIBITS AND EXHIBITORS.

The experiment of having a special space for exhibitors in connection with the annual meeting of the State Society, seems to have been quite a success. Of course such an exhibit is in no way new in itself; it is only new with us. It was in charge of Dr. Bering, Chairman of the Advertising Committee of the State Society, and he reports that without exception the exhibitors at Del Monte were more than pleased. Judging from the letters we have received this report is quite within the

truth. Advertising not only pays the publication that contains it, but it pays the manufacturer or the man who has some straight, honest thing to dispose of—and it pays the man who reads or sees the advertising; he keeps up to date. We are always glad to help the decent, straight sort just as we are to tell the truth about the other sort.

### THE BARLOW SANATORIUM.

The Directors and Advisory Board of the above institution gave a Charity Ball Benefit on April 10th, from which it realized net receipts of \$47,585.10, \$34,125 of which was given toward the Endowment Fund, which shows the total endowment of our institution \$101,000. The institution will immediately open ten more beds which have been closed for two years, making the capacity of the Sanatorium forty beds.

This institution is for the worthy poor cases of tuberculosis, residents of Los Angeles county, and the only charge made for any patient is five (\$5.00) dollars a week.

### THE VALUE OF A "PATENT MEDICINE."

#### "Syrup of Figs" Goes to Wheeling Syndicate.

The Neuralgylne Company, of Wheeling, W. Va., which controls the Sterling Remedy Company, makers of "Cascarets," has taken over the California Fig Syrup Company, of San Francisco and Louisville, at a price which is stated to be in excess of two million dollars. This places in the hands of the Wheeling concern two of the best known proprietary remedies in the country. It is stated that the California Fig Syrup Company has spent upwards of \$6,000,000, chiefly in newspaper advertising, and that its sales during the twenty-six years of its existence aggregate more than \$40,000,000.—Printers' Ink.

### ARMY MEDICAL CORPS EXAMINATION.

The Surgeon-General of the Army announces that preliminary examinations for the appointment of first lieutenants in the Army Medical Corps will be held on July 15, 1912, and September 3, 1912, at points to be hereafter designated.

Full information concerning these examinations can be procured upon application to the "Surgeon-General, U. S. Army, Washington, D. C." The essential requirements to securing an invitation are that the applicant shall be a citizen of the United States, shall be between 22 and 30 years of age, a graduate of a medical school legally authorized to confer the degree of doctor of medicine, shall be of good moral character and habits, and shall have had at least one year's hospital training, after graduation. The examinations will be held concurrently throughout the country at points where boards can be convened. Due consideration will be given to localities from which applications are received, in order to lessen the traveling expenses of applicants as much as possible.

The examination in subjects of general education (mathematics, geography, history, general literature, and Latin) may be omitted in the case of applicants holding diplomas from reputable literary or scientific colleges, normal schools or high schools, or graduates of medical schools which require an entrance examination satisfactory to the faculty of the Army Medical School.

In order to perfect all necessary arrangements for the examination, applications must be complete and in possession of the Adjutant-General at least three weeks before the date of examination. Early attention is therefore enjoined upon all intending applicants. There are at present sixty-eight vacancies in the Medical Corps of the Army.

### PROFESSOR LONG.

To the Editor of the State Journal: On page 178 of the May issue of your Journal you ask what Professor Long has ever accomplished in the warfare against the manufacture of adulterated and impure foods or against the dishonest drug maker. In reply I would remind you that Professor Long has been a member of the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry since its organization seven years ago. As a member of the Council's committee on chemistry he has not only greatly aided the work of the Council by his advice, particularly on subjects pertaining to medicinal foods and to questions of physiological chemistry in general, but has done a very large amount of chemical work for the Council. He has done this work without receiving any remuneration whatever. In recognition of these services his associates on the Council recently nominated him, and the board of trustees of the A. M. A. appointed him, to serve another term of five years. But further than this Professor Long has done a large amount of scientific work which is of the greatest value to those who are engaged in the prosecution of the adulterators of foods and medicines. As an illustration of the effect of the scientific work which Professor Long has done, it might be stated that by his authoritative investigations on casein the A. M. A. Chemical Laboratory was materially aided in its examination of the casein preparations, Iodo-nucleoid (Jour. A. M. A., July 22, 1911, p. 309) and Sanatogen (Jour. A. M. A., April 20, 1912, p. 1216).

Respectfully,

W. A. PUCKNER.

(Note. It is a pleasure to know that Prof. Long has done such good work for the advancement of purity and honesty in foods and drugs, but it is still to be regretted that he should have been a member of the Remsen Board.—Ed.).

### BOOK REVIEWS

**Statische Gelenkerkrankungen.** By Dr. Georg Preiser (Hamburg). Paper pp. 278, Stuttgart, 1911. Ferd. Enke, publisher. Price 10 marks (\$2.50).

In this thorough study Preiser defends with convincing argument his theory of the static origin of deforming arthritis and brings it forcibly home to us that we cannot disturb stresses and strains in one bone or joint without influencing the equipoise of the skeleton as a whole. Preiser considers deforming arthritis to be the result of a reaction of the joint tissues which, set up by incongruities of the weight-bearing surfaces, is due primarily to changes in the statics of the joints. When we consider the many examples he adduces to prove his theory, such as deforming arthritis of the hip after contralateral fracture of the leg with shortening, or again after pelvic deformity, his theory appears most plausible. Besides the histories and descriptions of pathological specimens bearing directly on this theme, the book contains a mass of material of interest and importance to the orthopedic surgeon. We mention, in passing, the investigations on Roser-Nelaton's line. Preiser shows that this line and the common acceptance of the position of the acetabulum (as lying with its center midway between the superior iliac spine and the tuber ossis ischii) are inaccurate in 60 to 70 per cent. of all cases. The statement that nothing is to be found in the literature on abnormal mobility of the sacro-iliac joint makes it evident that Preiser does not know the writings of Goldthwaite and other American authors on this subject. There are several misprints in the numbering of the plates which should be corrected in subsequent editions. The book is a good one; it merits careful study; it is abundantly illustrated by good X-ray plates.

L. E.